GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:146
ANSWERED ON:02.12.2005
UTILISATION OF FINDS UNDER RURAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES
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Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the funds allocated and utilized for rural development under different schemes during each of the last three years and current year, State-wise;

(b) whether a few States have requested for more funds whereas certain States have not utilized the allocated funds;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Union Government is aware that the progress of these schemes is not upto the mark despite huge expenditure;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor and if not, the extent thereof; and

(f) the steps taken by the Union Government for proper utilisation of funds, achieving the desired results and for ensuring that the funds reach the beneficiaries? .

Answer

MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH)

(a) to (f) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement refereed in reply to part (a) to (f) to Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 146 due for answer on 2.12. 2005.

The Ministry of Rural Development is implementing a number of Centrally Sponsored Schemes for poverty alleviation and rural development in the country. The Swarnjayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana (SGSY) provides self employment, while the Sampoorna Gramin Rozgar Yojana (SGRY) aims at providing additional wage employment in rural areas thereby providing food security and improved nutrition, and creating of durable community assets and infrastructure. The National Food for Work Programme (NFFWP) launched in 150 most backward districts during November 2004 also aims to generate additional supplementary wage employment with food security. The Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY) provides shelter to the shelterless. Other Rural Development Programmes such as Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) for rural connectivity, Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) including Swajaldhara and Central Rural Sanitation Programme (CRSP)/Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC) aim at development of rural infrastructure and rural amenities. Integrated Wastelands Development Programme (IWDP), Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP) and Desert Development Programme (DDP) are area development programmes which are implemented on watershed basis.

2. The allocation of funds to the States/UTs is done mainly on the basis of the proportion of the rural poor in a State/UT to the total rural poor in the country according to the estimates of the Planning Commission. State-wise Central Releases and Expenditure under major rural development programmes, during the last three years (i.e. 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05) and the current year are given in the enclosed Tables (Annexure I to VII).

3. The State Governments/UTs are required to utilize maximum amount of the available funds with them in accordance with the programme guidelines. The additional funds are released subject to the availability of funds within the budget allocation.

4. The Ministry has evolved a comprehensive system of monitoring the execution of the Programmes, including the utilisation of funds, through periodical Progress Reports received from the States/UTs, field visits by Area Officers of the Ministry and discussions with the State Secretaries and with the Project Directors of the District Rural Development Agencies/Chief Executive Officer of Zilla Parishads/Panchayats and monitoring by the District Level Monitoring agencies and National Level Monitors. Besides, Concurrent Evaluations and Impact Assessment Studies are also conducted to find out more effective ways of achieving the programme objectives. The Ministry has also adopted a four pronged strategy comprising

(i) creation of awareness about the schemes

(ii) transparency

(iii) peoples partnership and

(iv) accountability.